

Message Text

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22

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /081 W

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P R 031621Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3684

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS COPENHAGEN 4448

E.O.: 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB PINT DA

SUBJ: AGREEMENT ON CONTROL OF ILLEGAL STRIKES AND PRICES NEARED

REFS: (A) COPENHAGEN 4304, (B) COPENHAGEN 4302

SUMMARY: AN EMERGENCY PRICE, WAGE AND HOUSE RENT CONTROL BILL, CALCULATED TO STOP WILDCAT STRIKES AND BRAKE PRICE INCREASES, IS BEING DEBATED IN THE FOLKETING. THE GOVERNMENT CRISIS CAUSED BY A WILDCAT STRIKE OF PETROLEUM PRODUCT TANK TRUCK DRIVERS LAST WEEK MAY BE RESOLVED IF THIS BILL IS PASSED. END SUMMARY.

1. ANKER JORGENSEN'S SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC MINORITY GOVERNMENT MAY HAVE WEATHERED THE CRISIS CAUSED BY ITS INABILITY TO DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH THE WILDCAT STRIKE OF PETROLEUM PRODUCT TANK TRUCK DRIVERS LAST WEEK. LAST NIGHT (DECEMBER 2), A COMPROMISE WAS ACHIEVED WITH THE RADICALS, CHRISTIANS, CONSERVATIVES AND CENTER DEMOCRATS ON AN EMERGENCY LAW BANNING PRICE INCREASES AND WAGE INCREASES WON IN WILDCAT STRIKES. INCLUDED WAS A FREEZE ON HOUSE RENTS. ALL MEASURES ARE TO BE EFFECTIVE FOR THE

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PERIOD DECEMBER 1 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, BEFORE NATIONAL WAGE

AGREEMENTS ARE RENEWED MARCH 1.

2. THE BILL WAS TO RECEIVE ITS SECOND AND THIRD READINGS TODAY IN THE FOLKETING, BUT DELAYS HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY THE RECALCITRANCE OF TWO LEADING RADICAL PARTY MEMBERS, BOTH SPOKESMEN FOR BUSINESS INTERESTS, WHO OPPOSE THE PRICE CONTROL PROVISIONS OF THE EMERGENCY LEGISLATION. THERE IS SOME DOUBT THAT A SUFFICIENT MAJORITY CAN BE MAINTAINED IN THE FOLKETING DURING THE REMAINING PARLIAMENTARY STEPS AND IT MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THE FOLKETING TO MEET AGAIN TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

3. MORE DETAILS WILL BE FORTHCOMING WHEN THE PROVISIONS OF THE LEGISLATION ACTUALLY ADOPTED BECOME KNOWN.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRUCKS, GASOLINE, LABOR STRIKES, WAGE CONTROLS, PRICE CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976COPENH04448
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760449-0252
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761276/aaaacnsm.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 COPENHAGEN 4304, 76 COPENHAGEN 4302
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: wolfsd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <16 AUG 2004 by wolfsd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AGREEMENT ON CONTROL OF ILLEGAL STRIKES AND PRICES NEARED
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, DA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006